

REMARKS

Claim 8 is the sole claim presented for consideration.

Applicants note with appreciation that Claim 8 was indicated as containing patentable subject matter and would be allowed if placed in independent form. Based on this indication, Claim 8 has been amended to include the features of Claim 7, which has been cancelled.

Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being obvious over admitted prior art in view of Kawahara '629. Without conceding the propriety of this rejection, Claim 7 has been cancelled. This rejection is therefore deemed to be moot and should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of this application is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



\_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney for Applicants  
Scott D. Malpede  
Registration No. 32,533

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-3801  
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200  
SDM:mm

DC\_MAIN 191493v1